Mentzer-Oberlin Burying Ground at Indiantown

The location of this small cemetery in a field in the Indiantown area in northern Lancaster County is shown on the accompanying map. The photograph of this cemetery shows that it is in a deplorable state. The tombstones of Frederic and Christina Mentzer are in somewhat better condition than any of the dozen or more others there.

At the request of my correspondent in Germany, I sent him copies of everything I had about the Mentzers in America. Shortly afterwards I had an excited reply from him in which he pointed out that the design near the top on the front of Frederic Mentzer's tombstone is the escutcheon of Hagsfeld. He was amazed that the feeling of Frederic or his family for his "root village" was still strong at the time of his death in 1848. After all, Frederic was born in Pennsylvania in the 1770s, and his father and grandfather left Germany in 1751.

(Are there any other cases in Lancaster County which show that the escutcheon of the European place of origin was used here in America by any of the early Pennsylvania Germans?)